



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 2, 2001

H.R. 1628
El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Act of 2001

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on June 27, 2001

CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost less than \$500,000 annually, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 1628 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 1628 would amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas (the Royal Road to the Tejas) as a National Historic Trail. The segment of the El Camino Real considered for designation extends from the Rio Grande near Laredo, Texas, to Natchitoches, Louisiana, a distance of 2,580 miles. The Secretary of the Interior would administer the trail and coordinate the efforts of U.S. and Mexican public and private entities on various preservation and enhancement projects.

Based on information provided by the National Park Service (NPS), CBO estimates that the agency would spend \$300,000, mostly in fiscal years 2002 and 2003, to prepare a comprehensive management plan. Also, the NPS would incur ongoing costs to administer and preserve the trail—about \$100,000 in fiscal year 2001 and increasing to \$400,000 annually by fiscal year 2003. In total, assuming appropriation of the necessary sums, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost \$250,000 in fiscal year 2002 and between \$350,000 and \$450,000 annually thereafter.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Deborah Reis and Melissa Zimmerman. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.